Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Saturday 27 Mar 2021 until 23:59 on Sunday 28 Mar 2021

Forecast Issued on Friday 26 Mar 2021 at 17:02

Confidence: High for cold, showery conditions on Saturday morning giving way to milder conditions with periods of rain through into midweek, although some uncertainty over duration and intensity of rain due to doubts over position of a slow moving frontal system over the northern UK.

Headline for Saturday 27 Mar 2021: Cold with early snow showers, then milder with rain and increasing winds later.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 27 Mar 2021

Blizzards
Low Likelihood

Heavy Snow
Low Likelihood

Storm force winds
Low Likelihood

Gales
Medium Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
Low Likelihood

Strong sunlight
Low Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Light snow showers (night)	Heavy snow showers (night)	Light snow showers (night)	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Cloudy	Sleet	Heavy Rain
Precipitation probability							
30%	30%	30%	20%	<05%	<05%	70%	90%

Forecast for Saturday 27 Mar 2021

Weather: Clear spells and occasionally heavy snow showers through the early hours, with temporary blizzards and drifting snow possible especially over higher fells. Snow showers die out through the morning to leave some good spells of sunshine through the middle of the day. However cloud above the summits increases through the afternoon with outbreaks of occasionally heavy snow, falling increasingly as rain below about 600m, spreading east in the late afternoon, with blizzards possible over higher fells. The snow turns quickly to rain at all but the highest levels through the early evening and then at all levels by midnight.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Around 40% at dawn improving to around 90% by late morning. Chances fall to near zero through the late afternoon and evening.

Visibility: Occasional or periods of cloud above 600m at first becoming just small amounts below the summits by late morning. Cloud thickens and lowers through the late afternoon to become periods or persistent cloud above 450-600m with patches below. Away from cloud visibility very good or excellent falling to just a few kilometres in light snow showers and heavy rain, a kilometre or so in heavier snow and near zero in blizzards and drifting snow.

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Forecast for Saturday 27 Mar 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	38/49 W	31/40 W	33/43 W	28/37 W	25/36 W	27/39 SW	44/58 SW	51/69 SW	53/74 SW
600	30/43 W	24/33 W	26/38 W	23/33 W	23/34 W	25/37 SW	34/51 SW	41/60 SW	41/63 SW
300	15/36 W	10/28 W	13/31 W	12/28 W	13/29 W	14/31 SW	16/39 SW	19/46 SW	20/50 SW
Valley	16/35 W	12/29 W	14/31 W	14/29 W	14/28 W	14/28 SW	18/38 S	22/45 S	25/51 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-4/-15	-4/-13	-4/-13	-3/-12	-2/-10	-1/-9	0/-9	1/-8	2/-7
600	-2/-10	-2/-9	-1/-9	-0/-7	1/-6	2/-6	2/-5	3/-5	4/-4
300	1/-5	0/-4	1/-4	2/-2	4/0	5/0	5/0	5/0	6/1
Valley	3/-2	3/-1	3/-1	5/1	7/3	7/3	7/3	7/3	8/3
Freezing Level*	200m	300m	400m	400m	500m	600m	1000m	1100m	1400m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Conditions best through the middle of the day, but windy with a significant chill effect and drifting snow over higher fells.

Forecast for Sunday 28 Mar 2021

Weather: Cloudy with persistent and often heavy rain, especially for southern and western fells. The rain perhaps turning lighter and less persistent for a time around the middle of the day and then again later in evening.

Maximum wind: Southwesterly 40-50mph, gusts around 75mph over ridges and summits, decreasing 30-35mph, gusts 55mph, for a time through the middle of the day.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Little chance, perhaps improving to 40% for a time around the middle of the day.

Visibility: Periods or persistent cloud above 450m and patches below, perhaps becoming occasional or periods above 600m for a time around the middle of the day.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Around plus 6 rising to plus 11 Celsius by day
At 800m: Around plus 4 Celsius
Freezing level: Above summits.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Friday 26 March 2021 Location: Helvellyn Summit at 11:56 Full report: We are continuing to provide the Fell Top Reports for people undertaking their daily local exercise during the lockdown. We would like to remind everyone that Government guidance stipulates that people should only exercise locally, not leaving the village, town or city where they live. Here is today's report: A wet morning gave way to a fine and clear day with blustery winds. A dusting of fresh snow fell overnight and has settled above 700m. Much of the fresh snow has been transported by the wind and has settled in sheltered areas building into small drifts. Older refrozen snow (névé) is present in a long band around the north and east-facing corrie rims on Helvellyn and the adjacent fells to the south. This older snow is hard and icy, especially where it has been compressed by walker's feet crossing it. The classic ridges (Striding and Swirral edge) are mostly bare rock but with thin snow cover towards the top. Striding edge in particular still holds a steep bank of unavoidable névé on the final slope leading onto the plateau. Other similar routes in the region may well have areas of snow to negotiate which should be anticipated with additional equipment being carried if necessary (i.e. microspikes). Despite feeling springlike in the valleys, the temperature on the tops today was below freezing and the 'feels like' or windchill temperature is still very cold (-10°C today). Warm and waterproof clothing including hats and gloves, map and compass, headtorch, survival blanket, and sufficient food and a hot drink are all recommended. Please be conservative with your plans and know both your limits and also when to turn back. Temperature: minus 1.5 C Maximum wind speed 29.6 mph Wind chill: minus 10.6 C Average wind speed: 23.8 mph

Issued at: 1702 on Fri 26 Mar 2021

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